

## Message Text

SECRET

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72

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ ARP: SWBUCK: MB

6/15/73 X22686

APPROVED BY NEA: ALATHERTON

NEA/ ARP: FMDICKMAN

OGC: MR FOREMAN

JOINT STAFF J-5: CAPT CONNELLEY

PM/ MAS: DFARNHAM

S/ S- V: SEFRY

NEA/ ARN: TJSCOTES/ EDJEREJIAN

NEA/ RA: AMUNDY

DOD/ ISA: JTIMBERLAKE

DOD: I AND L: COL. CRAGUN

ISA/ NESA: MR. TIMBERLAKE/ LTC PRADOS

ISA/ SA: COL. BRIGGS

DSAA: MR. GUILD/ MR. THIEBERGER

----- 000854

P R 192323 Z JUN 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T STATE 119694

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, JO, MU

SUBJECT: GRENADE LAUNCHERS FOR OMAN

KUWAIT PASS MUSCAT

1. SINCE QABOOS HAS APPROACHED HUSSEIN WE WOULD PREFER  
TO LEAVE REQUEST IN THIS CHANNEL. HOWEVER IF DIRECT  
SUPPLY FROM U. S. NECESSARY TO PROVIDE LAUNCHER CAPABILITY  
QUICKLY TO OMAN WE HAVE NO OBJECTION FMS ROUTE.

2. IF GOJ WILLING TO PROVIDE OMAN WITH M-79 GRENADE  
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LAUNCHER WITHOUT REPLACEMENT, TRANSFER COULD OCCUR, PROVIDED: (1) GOJ REQUESTS USG APPROVAL OF TRANSFER, (2) GOJ SELLS M-79 S TO OMAN, (3) GOJ RETURNS PROCEEDS OF SALE TO USG AS MAP REIMBURSEMENT, AND (4) OMAN PROVIDES GOJ WITH NECESSARY ASSURANCES FOR TRANSMITTAL TO USG RE NON- TRANSFER OF THIS EQUIPMENT TO THIRD COUNTRY WITHOUT USG APPROVAL. SALES PROCEDURES AND PAYMENT TO USG REQUIRED BECAUSE JORDAN' S M-79 S ARE MAP PROPERTY, AND OMAN ELIGIBLE FOR FMS BUT NOT FOR MAP. PRICE GOJ CHARGES OMAN SHOULD CORRESPOND TO WHAT DOD WOULD CHARGE UNDER ITS REGULATIONS. THIS DEPENDS ON COITION OF EQUIPMENT, WHICH CAN RANGE FROM FIVE TO FIFTY PERCENT OF ACQUISITION COST, BUT IN THIS CASE WOULD PROBABLY BE ABOUT 20 OF \$222 COST OF NEW M-79 S. SALE OF 40 MM GRENADES FOR THE LAUNCHERS WOULD BE APPROXIMATELY 50 OF ACQUISITION COST.

3. M-79 S ARE NO LONGER U. S. ARMY ITEM OF ISSUE AND

NONE BEING MANUFACTURED. USG COULD SELL NEWER GRENADE LAUNCHER M-203 TO OMAN, BUT LEAD TIME THIS ITEM ABOUT TWO YEARS. FYI URGENT REQUEST FOR M-203 S BY LEBANON IN EARLY JANUARY HAD TO BE MET BY DIVERSION FROM OTHER RECIPIENTS. END FYI. SINCE M-203 CAN BE USED ONLY AS ATTACHMENT TO M-16 RIFLE, OMAN WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BUY M-16 RIFLES. COST OF RIFLES AND GRENADE LAUNCHER ROUGHLY COMPARABLE TO COST OF NEW M-79. ROGERS

SECRET

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* EXDIS

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* SECRET

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**TAGS:** MASS, JO, MU  
**To:** AMMAN  
KUWAIT  
USCINCEUR  
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